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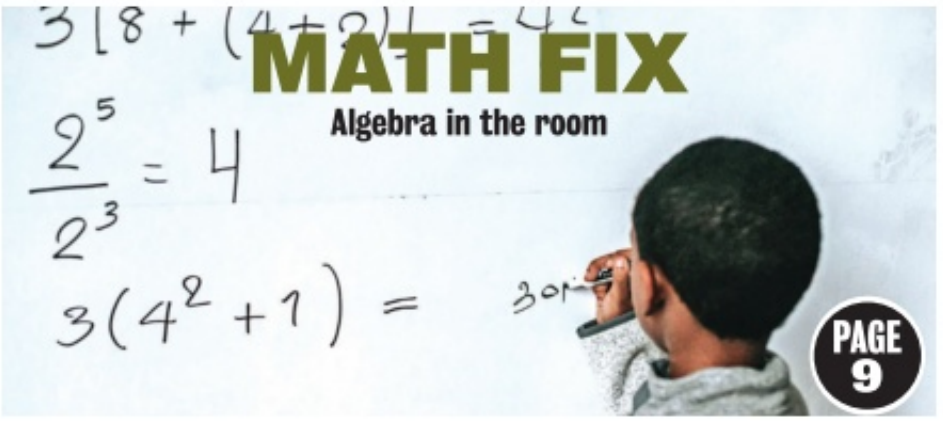
Bangalore Mirror

TEMP Max 32 | Min 17 | Humidity 58% Clear with periodic clouds Sensex 59,135 | Nifty 17,412 | Gold 56,130 | Silver 62,851 | Dollar 81.97 | Euro 87.26 | GBP 98.64

COIR CARE

For shoreline protection

PAGE 7



MATH FIX

Algebra in the room

PAGE 9

How brazen failure of sub-registrars to follow directives from authorities, injunctions or stay orders from courts has an alleged scam running

FLAW OF THE LAND

Sub-registrars register sale deeds overriding district registrar's caution

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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

The following story is a classic example of how individuals with deep pockets and political influence can get away or continue to flourish by developing illegal layouts in Bengaluru.

The negligence and insubordination of a few sub-registrars have the potential to become a case study for prospective Indian Revenue Service (IRS) officers. The shocking thing is the brazen failure of the sub-registrars to follow the directives of higher authorities, and injunctions or stay orders from honourable courts.

The case in point is about an illegal layout at Vijinapura — with an estimated 180 residential sites at survey numbers 19/2, 65, and 94 — formed by the daughter of a minister in the Basavaraj Bommai cabinet, and others.

It is alleged that N Nethravathi, the daughter of a minister, and others developed a layout under dispute. Sale of sites continues without any hassle despite a pending case. The sub-registrars went ahead and registered the sale deeds even though the district registrar cautioned them.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6 »

Layout in alleged dispute, inset: caution notice issued to sub-registrars

"I handed over a letter stating the land under dispute has a temporary injunction order but the sub-registrar of Bidarahalli ignored it and continued registering around 30 sale deeds in a single day — Yatish M, complainant

In case you missed it

Every year, thousands of cases are added to list of cases pending police investigation

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According to the National Crime Records Bureau, there were 7,302 cases of IPC crimes pending for investigation by the end of the year in 2021, in Bengaluru. The data showed a total of 8,872 cases of IPC (Indian penal code) crimes were pending from 2020 as well. Similarly, in SLL (Special and local laws) crimes, 24,373 cases were pending in Bengaluru.

Residents in the city claimed they are being denied justice due to delay in police investigation.

In one such case, a Whitefield special needs school was accused of beating a 10-year-old autistic boy who is nonverbal. The boy's parents reported that his upper right arm had three fractures — they filed an FIR in HAL police station on January 6. However the father of the child claimed that even after constant visits to the police station, nothing much has been done so far.

"Initially, the school claimed that the CCTV footage was corrupt so they couldn't determine the reason behind the fracture. Later an FIR was filed to procure and see the CCTV footage; I just want to know how this happened to my child. But the police have not been very helpful in this regard; I have to visit the police station every now and then to constantly remind them. When I visit the station, they tell me that they

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2 »

3 THINGS TO DO

01 Be fit

Here's a chance for fitness enthusiasts in the city to participate in south India's first Street Workout Championship. Street workout remains a thrilling sport, which is also known as calisthenics and is performed with minimal equipment. The motive of the competition is to lead holistic fitness with minimal approach. **Where: CaliOG Gym, Jakkasandra; When: April 14 and 15**

02 On the board

Bangalore Chess Club is back with its another edition of Chess Connect. The club welcomes players from all age groups to experience the moves on the chess board in person rather than offering an online game. You need not be a professional to participate here. **Where: Lahe Lahe When: Saturday, March 25; 10 am**

03 Poetry Day

Don't miss this if you are a poetry lover. Celebrate World Poetry Day 2023 with 'Pay for Poem' initiative. Being held at Urban Solace which is known to support poets in Bengaluru, the aim of the event is to promote writing, reading and publishing of poetry.
The initiative welcomes anyone irrespective of whether they are a poet or not. Walk directly and grab the chance to write a poem and get paid with a coffee. **Where: Urban Solace Cafe; When: Tuesday, March 21, 11 am**

Celebrating women: Core of the cycle of life

Around 50 women cyclists come together at Vidhana Soudha as part of cycling club's efforts to raise a toast to women's efforts, to hail their empowerment

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Women riders, many family members of the club members, and other cyclists showed up at 7 pm on Sunday to participate in the event

Bangalore Cycling Club (BCC), a club of almost 500-600 cyclists from Bengaluru organised a women's day celebration with women cyclists in the city to encourage them and celebrate women's empowerment.

Rajaneesh KN, one of the core members of BCC, told Bangalore Mirror that it is a two-year-old cycling club dedicated to supporting cyclists in Bengaluru.

"We wanted to do a big event for the International Women's Day on Wednesday, March 8, but since it was a weekend it would have been difficult to call all the women and have an event.

Many of these women are working women, and even the ones who do not usually have work or other engagements on weekdays," he said.

The ride was arranged on Sunday morning, March 12 at Vidhana Soudha in Bengaluru and the main agenda was to celebrate and encourage the women at the club and outside it as well.

"We had close to 50 women riders at the event, adding to that, many family members of the club members and other cyclists also showed up to support us. We wanted to promote that directly or indirectly as women are the backbone of everything in society.

We wanted to demonstrate that we support and encourage their efforts through this event," he explained.

The club has been functional for close to three years and helps cyclists find affordable bicycles without any extra cost. The club also certifies the cyclists on completing certain milestones around the city, etc.

> **"We wanted to promote that directly or indirectly as women are the backbone of everything in society**
> – Rajaneesh KN, Bangalore Cycling Club

"We wanted to do a bigger event for women's day with 200 members at least and invite influential women to encourage the riders as well. However, due to certain circumstances, we could not do it on as big a scale as we wanted," he added.

Though the event was on a small scale, it was impactful and we were able to celebrate all the women that were present at the event and their milestones, he informed.

The club met at 7 am on Sunday with almost 60 women present. However, this is not the first such event that the club has organised in the city. They plan to carry out more events in the future.

This could be worst case scenario

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

are waiting for forensics and other reports; it has been two months and no action has been taken against the school," said Swapnil, parent of the child.

BT Venkatesh, former state public prosecutor, said reasons for delayed investigation can be multiple, ranging from police negligence to lack of evidence in the case.

"Delayed investigation can happen because of multiple reasons... It is not as though the police are responsible for each and every case; there have been cases where there is negligence by the police in investigation. There has been a long standing demand that one person should not be responsible for multiple tasks. There was a case where my client was called to the police station; she had to meet the ACP, but then, the ACP was called for another task; so the entire thing was delayed for days," he said.

P Krishnakant, deputy commissioner of police, south division, said there is a need for more police personnel and police stations due to increasing population and crimes.

"Depending on the type of cases, there are different timelines, for instance, for murder cases the timeline is 90 days. So in many of the cases what happens is that the complainant doesn't come back or the accused is absconding or unavailable. In these cases, it becomes difficult to file a chargesheet because certain criteria are not fulfilled. When you compare to other countries, we have a lower number of police personnel on duty as opposed to the population.

Increasing population and different types of crimes put a lot of pressure on the police; it's not possible to investigate so many cases simultaneously. More technological aid combined with more police force will help in reducing pending cases," he said.

Hi-tech plans: Pelican crossings... Why not?

BBMP, traffic police plan to set up crossings that will allow pedestrians to request stop lights at 10 signals in Mahadevapura

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Soon pedestrians in Bengaluru will not have to wait endlessly for traffic to halt to cross roads. What do you know, the city may soon get on-demand pelican signals, which will allow pedestrians to request a stop light and cross the road.

The new project is being envisioned by the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) and Bangalore Traffic Police (BTP). The project involves establishing pelican crossings at 10 signals in Mahadevapura. This would be the first time such a system is being implemented in the city.

In 2023 alone, the city recorded 25 pedestrian deaths and 88 pedestrian injuries.

General Secretary of Mahadevapura Task Force (Mobility) Clement Jayakumar told BM, "It's a pilot project being planned for Mahadevapura. The project has received approval and is likely to begin in a few weeks. We are trying to identify 10 places with high pedestrian density. Depending on the number of pedestrians, pressing the button will activate the stop light for 12-15 seconds. Over time, a few seconds will be given for motorists to prepare for the green light. There will be an adjusted time lag for the next pedestrian crossing."

About pelican crossings

A pelican crossing is a kind of crossing equipped with traffic signals for both pedestrians and vehicular traffic, activated by call buttons for pedestrians, with the walk signal being direct across the road from the pedestrian. Usually, the crossing is formed of two poles on either side of the road, each containing three signal heads (one in each direction for drivers and one facing pedestrians). The system is also equipped with a call button unit for pedestrians to operate the crossing. Ideally, the system includes an audible bleep and tactile rotating cones are present to aid visually impaired pedestrians.

The first proposal was sent for approval but the exact location of the signals is still under discussion.

> **"Motorists need to stop when the red light appears and pedestrians need to be made aware of the system and how to use it safely**

These systems will come up near High Rise Pedestrian Crossing (HRPC) and zebra crossing. In cases where either is not present, new ones will be painted in. The required equipment is ready for installation. The MTF is coordinating with BTP and BBMP's Traffic Engineering Cell (TEC) to get the project going. Plans are in progress to create awareness along with traffic wardens. The area will also be equipped with adequate signages to inform motorists about the zone with a pelican crossing.

Awareness

While the project is being envisioned as a pedestrian-friendly measure, a new system of traffic system involving sudden changing of traffic lights would require awareness drives. Traffic wardens will create awareness to facilitate the behavioural shift required for both pedestrians and motorists. Motorists need to stop at the onset of the unexpected stop light and pedestrians need to wait until the stop light turns on; ensuring their safe passage.

"We are trying to create awareness about the system. Motorists need to stop when the red light appears and pedestrians need to be made aware of the system and how to use it safely. The drives will be carried out with the help of the traffic wardens," said a traffic official.

Mobility experts emphasised on the need for continuance of such systems for a longer period to understand their validity.

"Often such projects are determined to be successful or unsuccessful within a short time to estimate the validity of the project. Such projects should be supported and made successful in the larger interest of the city. New projects will require time for behavioural change. Broadly, motorists need to be made aware of not encroaching on areas meant for pedestrians," said mobility expert, Sathya Sankaran.

Bus conductor's death: Accident or murder?

After the death of a bus conductor in a fire accident in a BMTC bus on Friday, doubts have arisen regarding the case. Suspicion arose on whether it was an accident or a murder so the police have accelerated the investigation. The Badarahalli police have interrogated bus driver Prakash.

The driver Prakash told the police that the fire may have started due to a short circuit.

Along with Prakash's statement, the CCTV footage of the bus station was also checked. It was seen that the victim was sleeping alone in the bus while driver Prakash was sleeping in the driver's room. However, Prakash had got up twice. He woke up once at 3 am and once at 4 am. The fire incident occurred at 4:26 am.

The BMTC officials also clarified in the police interrogation that the complete condition of the bus was checked in February and there was no problem during the check. The FSL team has already inspected the bus where the incident took place and collected samples. **BMB**

Boy killed by mother's lover

A boy was killed allegedly by his mother's lover in the Bagalur police station limits recently.

Police have arrested the accused, Sampath, in connection with the case. It is alleged that Sampath committed the crime as he was angry with his beloved not accepting his call. He is said to have kidnapped her son and threw him in the lake.

The woman met Sampath as he was friends with her ex-husband Praveen. After the couple's divorce, the woman moved in with Sampath. It is alleged that Sampath used to torture the woman. She is said to have run away after which Sampath kidnapped her son and threw him in the lake. Sampath too tried to commit suicide by consuming poison.

The woman reported that her son missing to the police. Nine days after the complaint, the body of the child was found in the lake. **BMB**

... While, here it is rickety walk in the sky

Stairs of skywalk near Tin Factory are completely rusted and can give way any time, posing grave risk for pedestrians

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The purpose of a skywalk is to ensure that pedestrians can reach the other side of the road without having to risk life and limb on busy roads. But what if taking the skywalk itself turns into a risk to life and limb? Pedestrians are hesitant to use one such rundown skywalk near TIN Factory Junction to reach the other side of Old Madras Road.

Pedestrians have to be wary while using the steel stairs of the skywalk on the TIN Factory side. The steel stairs are rusted and are in a precarious condition. The pedestrians are compelled to use the rusted stairs as they have no other option to reach the other side of the road to board a bus towards KR Puram or Mahadevapura and other areas.

"It is not safe for children and senior citizens to use these stairs. They have to be cautious while using this skywalk to reach other side of the road," said Palani P, a resident of Pai Layout.

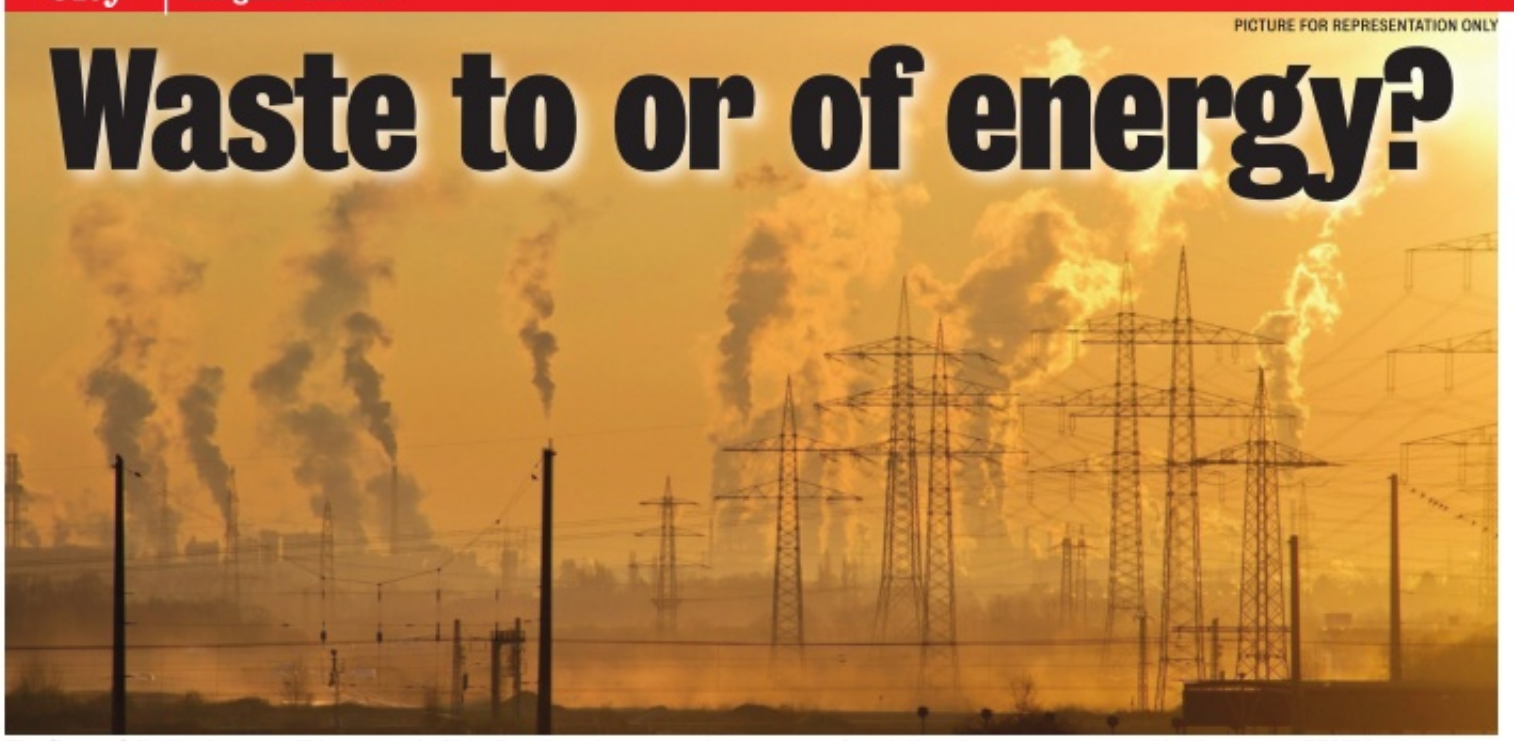
Pedestrians and residents of nearby localities are demanding that the BBMP or the BMRCL officials must complete the construction of the proposed new skywalk. "This is the only skywalk for pedestrians to cross the road. The skywalk is also busy 24/7. The authorities concerned must complete the construction of the new skywalk as early as possible. I think the pedestrians have to wait for the new skywalk until the Metro Station is open," said Balaji Raghotham, a lake activist.

Expressing concern over the poor condition of the skywalk, Subramanian NH, general secretary of Pai Layout Residents' Association, said the skywalk is very dangerous and one day it would give way like it happened in Mumbai where several people were injured in a skywalk collapse. "It is high time that BBMP officials or whosoever responsible must at once dismantle it and prevent a possible major catastrophe," said Balasubramanian.

He said that he has already sent a message to the BBMP Joint Commissioner of Mahadevapura Zone on the poor condition of the skywalk. However, the BBMP Zonal Commissioner of Mahadevapura Zone was not available for comment.

PICTURE FOR REPRESENTATION ONLY

Waste to or of energy?



The first-of-its kind plant will be set up in Bidadi and work has nearly been completed; the plan was announced in the recent BBMP budget too

Environmentalists criticise Waste-to-Energy (WTE) plant opening in state

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A Waste-to-Energy (WTE) plant for Karnataka is expected to be opened by May this year. The project is being implemented by the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) and Karnataka Power Corporation Limited (KPCL).

The first-of-a-kind plant will come up in Bidadi and the work is nearly completed. According to BBMP officials, the WTE plant will generate 11.5 MW of power and has the capacity to process 600 tonnes of RDF material. The civic body will supply the required RDF for running the plant. The project is being implemented at the cost of Rs 260 crore and each department has to bear Rs 130 crore.

For setting up the plant, 150 acres of land in Bidadi will be utilised. The plant was initially proposed in 2013 by private players. Despite multiple proposals, the plan failed to take off. Now, the government is implementing the project in a bid to attract more private players. With over 800-1,000 tonnes of waste being generated every day, more plants are expected to come up.

The WTE plant was also announced in the recent BBMP budget and was expected to start early in 2023. The move will also reduce the dependence on landfill sites. In 2020, Chief Minister BS Yediyurappa laid the foundation for the plant.

However, environmentalists expressed concerns about the futility of the exercise. Noted environmentalist Dr TV Ramachandra from Centre for Ecological Science and Centre for Sustainable Technologies, Indian Institute of Science, noted that the composition of Indian waste is 60-70 per cent.

"As per Solid Waste Management Rules and the Supreme Court Order, waste segregation should have happened and there is no question of mixed waste. Our Indian waste is largely organic. The organic fraction should be converted into biogas or manure. Even 30-40 per cent of waste consisting of paper and plastic has reusable value. With high organic content, the WTE plants won't be viable," he stated. A similar mistake happened with Gayatri industries and history is being repeated, he said, adding that this is a waste of taxpayer's money.

> **"Even 30-40 % of waste consisting of paper and plastic has reusable value. With high organic content, the WTE plants won't be viable**
> – TV Ramachandra, environmentalist

Ramachandra also said that running such a plant will increase particulate matter and dioxins in the air.

Another SWM activist, V Ram Prasad, noted that such a project can only be viable within 600-800 tonnes of RDF per day. "Usually, 10 per cent of waste is expected to be inert and refuse waste. Estimating that Bengaluru generates about 6,000 tonnes per day, 600 tonnes is the fair capacity for running a WTE plant. But beyond that, it only points to mixed waste coming in through solid waste."

He said that the technology utilised should have a proven track record as WTE plants have failed in many places.

He said this plant should avoid using technology that has not worked in other cities.

Agencies giving technical approval must also ensure the working status of the plants. "Citizens in the area should be made aware and remain alert for malfunctioning of the unit," he added.

Kasavanahalli footpaths are 'practically invisible'

Residents have stopped sending kids for errands as the latter would have to walk on the busy main road

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Residents and commuters in Kasavanahalli are upset over their footpaths being encroached upon by food vendors and vehicles. They report that walking through the area has become quite difficult for them because of this.

They told Bangalore Mirror that commercial establishments in the area have resulted in people parking their vehicles, covering up the entire footpath. Avinash Kumar, a resident of the area, said, "There should be separate parking spots attached with all the commercial establishments and footpaths should be left for pedestrians. However, the people coming to these places are blatantly taking up all the space on the footpaths by parking their vehicles on them. This is creating unnecessary inconvenience for pedestrians."

Some pedestrians also shared problems they face while walking on these footpaths. Arnav K, another resident, said, "It has become very difficult for us residents to walk through the footpaths because they are always full of cars and bikes. It seems that the footpaths were made for people to park their vehicles. We have to either squeeze through the cars or use the main road for walking where vehicles go at a high speed."

Indra Gowda, also a resident, said that there is a shopping mart in the area which is very close to his house. However, the footpath on the opposite side is constantly full of parked vehicles. "We used to walk to the mart whenever we needed to buy things, but now we cannot even use the stretch anymore as the footpath is practically invisible," he said.

Locals say that commercial establishments have led to parking on footpaths in this area

Many residents like Sumita Arora used to send their children outside alone to run small errands when they were too busy. However, now that the footpaths are no longer empty, the children have to use the main road for walking. "I no longer send them out alone because it is unsafe. And no matter how occupied I am, I will have to take out time to complete those errands by myself," said Arora.

Some locals also complained about heavy vehicles using the street. Amrita Jain told BM, "Since the last few days, I have been noticing that heavy trucks carrying steel and sand are using this area. It is highly dangerous because it is a residential area and people can get hurt."

A Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) official said that they would investigate the matter and take necessary steps.

whatsapp MIRROR 9591233247

Problems in your area?
Send us a picture along with specific details. And please, no phone calls or spamming

Take these down

Byatarayanapura

Illegal flexes can be found all over Byatarayanapura on these poles.

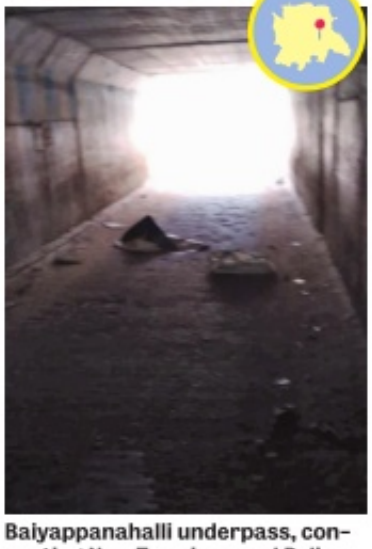
Unknown car

Seshadripuram

This car has been parked in Kumarapark west(in front of Badaganadu Sangha Hostel, Seshadripuram) for the last two months.

Garbage galore

Baiyappanahalli



Baiyappanahalli underpass, connecting New Terminus and Police Station Road, is full of garbage.

Birds of lung disease flock together

Are you feeding pigeons? It may not be the best idea

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Do you have a pigeon family living on your terrace or window ledge? Are you experiencing a cough, breathing difficulty, chest tightness, and body aches? If answers to both questions are in the affirmative, you might be suffering from Bird Fancier's Lung disease.

Pulmonologists at various private hospitals in the city say they are witnessing a recent surge in these cases due to exposure to air-born avian antigen.

Experts opine that the number of such cases is going up due to increasing awareness and exposure of pigeons to humans in the city.

"Due to increasing awareness amongst the medical community and with increasing urbanisation and associated deforestation, the exposure of humans to pigeons has increased. This is probably contributing to the surge in the number of such cases," said Dr Pavan Yadav, pulmonologist, Aster RV Hospital.

According to city hospitals, people are walking in with symptoms such as body aches, breathlessness, cough, and tightness of the chest.

Exposure of human beings to pigeons have increased in the city

"Once contracted, people develop symptoms like cough, breathing difficulty, chest tightness, and body aches that last weeks or months, and weight loss that gets progressively worse. On chronic exposure, patients also develop chronic lung fibrosis which may be progressive, leading to low oxygen levels in the body and oxygen dependency with oxygen support. We are witnessing it across all the age groups," added Dr Yadav.

Pigeons forming nests on window shelves and in balconies of apartments have led to increased exposure to pigeon feather dust and dropping dust.

People who breed birds as a hobby or as an occupation are also at increased risk.

"It is one of the common causes of hypersensitivity pneumonitis in the western world. Over time, some people with chronic hypersensitivity pneumonitis develop clubbing of fingers and toes and irreversible pulmonary fibrosis," said Dr Sachin Kumar, pulmonologist, Sakra World Hospital.

Doctors say that pigeon feathers and droppings are extremely allergic and can cause significant cases of hypersensitivity pneumonitis. With an increase in the pigeon population in the city over the last decade, the first step to avoid contracting the disease is to stop feeding pigeons and keep balconies clean and disinfected.

"Owners of high-rise apartments should install pigeon nets on their balconies to drive the birds away. Pigeon droppings and feathers should be washed away regularly. Gloves and masks should be used while handling them," said Dr Kumar.

The constantly changing topography of the city, according to experts, has led to an increase in the number of pigeons over the years.

While the disease occurs due to inhalation of fungal spores and bird or animal dander, doctors informed that it does not spread like a virus infection.

Verdict on Namma Clinics: 'Unhelpful'

Their fixed timings are leaving citizens unable to use their services

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Namma Clinics in Bengaluru were touted to be modelled on Delhi's successful 'mohalla clinics'. However, the 'fixed timing' model of these clinics is hardly useful for patients. Currently, 110 Namma clinics are operational across the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) limits. However, it is surprising to note that these clinics are open between 9 am and 1.30 pm and 2-4.30 pm only.

"What's the use of having clinics if it is open only for a limited time? Patients rush to hospitals or clinics based on urgency, not time. When the government announced the opening of these clinics, we thought it would be open around the clock so that people would benefit. However, it is hardly useful to anyone," said Suresh Gowda, a resident of Defence Colony.

Nanda S, a resident of Malleswaram, said, "The government had announced earlier that one can get diagnostic tests done for free at these clinics. Usually, people go for a blood sugar test early in the morning (pre-food test) and then once again after having breakfast. However, we were surprised to know that these clinics are open only after 9 am. This means it is hardly useful for us."

Sandesh R, a resident of Devaiah Park, said hospitals do not typically function like government offices based on fixed timings. Many people leave for work before 9 am and are unable to use the services of the clinic, he said, By the time one returns from work, the clinic is already shut. "We wonder how such clinics can be beneficial at all. We are also told that many clinics suffer from staff shortages too," he added.

The Chief Health Officer said that it was up to the state government to extend the clinic timings

> **We have been receiving a lot of requests from the public about extending the time. Currently, we are reviewing the requests** – Dr Balasundar, Chief Health Officer

Chief Health Officer Dr Balasundar said, "We have been receiving a lot of requests from the public about extending the time. Currently, we are reviewing the requests and planning to open one or two such clinics on a pilot basis to check footfall. Ultimately, it is the call of the government to extend the time."

Reacting to this, Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai said that out of the 243 proposed Namma Clinics, 110 are currently operational and the rest will be opened within a week. These clinics are offering free consultation, medicine, and laboratory facilities. Once all the clinics are open, these clinics will function for 24 hours.

A senior official added that the government has planned to launch a total of 438 Namma Clinics in the state. At each clinic, 12 services will be offered. "There won't be any user fee and the medicines will be supplied for free. Diagnostics for 14 lab tests will be free, while teleconsultation services will also be offered. It will also have health and wellness centres. For secondary or tertiary care, referrals will be given from the clinic to other hospitals. "We are facing a shortage of doctors across the state, and to meet the shortage, we are planning to rope in MBBS qualified doctors who are part of compulsory rural service," they added.

Panchayat accountant found dead

A woman village panchayat accountant was suspiciously found hanging at her residence in Bilikere village, Hunsur taluk in Mysuru district on Sunday.

The deceased, identified as 25-year-old Krishna Bai Tukaram Padke, was working at Shanubhoganahalli zone. Krishna Bai hailed from Esgalli village of Athani taluk in Belagavi district.

Preliminary investigations have revealed that the deceased was married to Subhash Bhosle from Belagavi one month ago. He worked as the forest guard at Hanur in Chamarajanagar district.

Krishna Bai had reported to duty four days ago and she was staying with her colleague Chaitra and her mother at a rented house. She was found hanging on Sunday morning.

Bilikere police have registered a case in this regard. The police have not ruled out foul play and are recording statements. More details are yet to emerge in the incident. Further investigation is on. **–IANS**

Trade mission from London

The India-born Deputy Mayor of London for Business, Rajesh Agrawal, will arrive in New Delhi on Monday as the head of a four-day trade mission made up of 10 of the city's leading technology companies to promote stronger trade and investment links with India. The latest India visit marks the first in-person trade mission run by the Mayor's International Business Programme, designed to help London companies to grow internationally. "Indian cities rightly look to London as the perfect launchpad to grow their business internationally," said Agrawal.

"London and cities such as Mumbai and Bengaluru share mutual strengths in sectors such as finance, life sciences and technology – creating huge opportunities for business partnerships. As one of the world's fastest growing economies, India is also a major market for ambitious London companies," he said.

A number of well-known Indian companies have expanded their operation in London in recent years, including Indian IT giants Wipro and Infosys, as well as Indian unicorns upGrad, Ola and Oyo. Between 2012-2022, Mumbai and Bengaluru were the top cities for business investment from India into London. **–PTI**

Easy route from B'luru to Kodagu

NHAI plans to have Greenfield alignment on Bengaluru-Kodagu Highway, travel time between Bengaluru and Kushalnagar expected to reduce

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As the Bengaluru-Mysuru Expressway is open to traffic, now the focus has shifted to Bengaluru-Kodagu Highway which will have a new Greenfield alignment to bypass Mysuru and nearby villages and towns. PM Narendra Modi formally laid the foundation stone for the 92 km project to be taken up at a cost of Rs 4,130 crore. It is said that once the project is completed, the travel time between Bengaluru and Kushalnagar will be reduced from the present 5 hours to 2.5 hours.

According to National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) officials, this project will take off from Guddehosur near Srirangapatna (from Bengaluru-Mysuru Expressway), and a new Greenfield alignment of 51.43 km (along with combined by pass of Hunsur) will be constructed so that it joins the existing alignment of Mysuru-Kushalnagar Road at Thammadahalli.

NHAI has planned a 19.95 km bypass for Periyapatna, 12.2 km bypass for Kushalangar and 3.4 km long bypass for Suntikoppa. The new road will be a big relief for those travelling from Bengaluru to Kodagu.

The officials claimed that since the new alignment passes through agricultural or dry land, the level of social and environmental impact is lesser.

"This road will definitely be a boon for travellers to Kodagu. Currently, we are forced to travel to Madikeri via Mysuru Outer Ring Road (ORR). Though the Bengaluru-Mysuru Expressway has reduced the travel time, the vehicles are getting stuck near Columbia Asia signal where one needs to take a right turn on ORR towards Kodagu. Then, we have to pass through many villages to reach the highway," said S Medappa, a frequent commuter on the route.

The other option is to take a short cut via KRS Road. However, this road is in a pathetic condition and not fit for travelling. Additionally, this road is quite dangerous to drive at night times. The new road will not only cut short the travel time but also provides a short cut, he added.

PM Narendra Modi receives a grand welcome on his arrival in Mandya

> **This road will definitely be a boon for travellers to Kodagu. Currently, we are forced to travel to Madikeri via Mysuru Outer Ring Road**
>
> –S Medappa, a commuter

Activists raise concerns

However, many environmental activists have taken exception to the new Greenfield project stating that the highway is close to Ranganathittu Bird Sanctuary which houses a number of avian species.

Environmentalists from Kodagu held a press conference on Sunday saying that the widening of the road may threaten Kodagu's biodiversity and result in landslides.

Toll collection

Meanwhile, the NHAI plans to collect tolls soon on this expressway. As per NHAI notification, toll fee for the first stretch of highway (Bengaluru-Nidaghatta) is Rs 135 for cars (single entry) and Rs 205 for return journey on the same day. Going by the current toll fee collected, it is likely that one way travel between Bengaluru to Mysuru will be around Rs 250 plus and the return will be Rs 600 plus. There have been multiple protests against toll collection and the latest was held on Sunday where the agitators said that the toll should not be collected till the service road is completed.

Hiding in plain sites

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

According to the documents, N Nethravathi, the daughter of MTB Nagaraj, allegedly purchased the land bearing survey number 19/2 on October 10, 2018. However, the BBMP issued khata for the land on November 13, 2018. The point here to be noted is that Nethravathi has paid the property tax for the said land since 2014. How is it possible for the BBMP revenue department to accept property tax from a person who is yet to become the owner of the property at that time (2014-15)? So, the BBMP can receive property tax from any person, without verifying whether he/she/they are the owner of the property, and issue property tax receipts. The amusing thing is that BBMP assistant revenue officer sent a reply on January 31, 2023, to an application from Yatish and others stating that an illegal layout is formed on the land bearing survey number 19/2 at Vijinapura. What were the respective revenue inspectors or BBMP ward engineers doing when 'an illegal layout was being formed' on a land under dispute? It is the million dollar query in the case — the BBMP authorities have to answer it.

BBMP issued property tax receipt for the year 2014-15 to the purchaser who bought the property in 2018.

The Bangalore Development Authority (BDA) made it clear on August 23, 2022 that it had not sanctioned the plan for the layout developed on survey numbers 19/2, 65 and 94.

Meanwhile, the district registrar at the department of Stamps and Registration issued caution notice to sub-registrars of Shivajinagar, Halasuru, KR Puram, Varthur, Banaswadi, Indiranagar, Mahadevapura and Bidarahalli not to register the sites bearing survey numbers 19/2, 65, and 94 and follow the rules while registering the sale deeds of the sites.

Surprisingly, the sub-registrar of Halasuru registered six sites (three each bearing the survey numbers 65 and 94) on a single day on January 20, 2022. Though the sale deeds can be registered at any sub-registrar office, it is intriguing and leads to suspicion why the seller and buyers preferred the sub-registrar office at Halasuru which is neither close to their residences or the layout in question.

The sub-registrar of Bidarahalli registered 30 sale deeds on July 13, 2022 even after the complainant made a representation to the sub-registrar. It is alleged that around 100 sites were registered at Banaswadi sub-registrar office in one year. "I personally handed over a letter stating the land under dispute has a temporary injunction order but the respective sub-registrar of Bidarahalli ignored it and continued registering around 30 sale deeds in a single day," said Yatish M, the complainant.

Meanwhile, M Ramesh of Navajyothi Builders and Developers, one of the partners of N Nethravathi-owned NS Infra, said that a case is pending in the court for a quite long time. Ramesh, when contacted on the mobile phone, initially denied having anything to do with the layouts developed on the land bearing the survey numbers 19/2, 65, and 94.

When informed, Stamps and Registration district registrar at Shivajinagar, Satheesh Kumar, confirmed the issuing of a caution notice to sub-registrars advising them not to register sale deeds pertaining to survey numbers 19/2, 65, and 94.

"If need arises, I will issue one more caution notice to all sub-registrars," said the district registrar.

The City Civil Court issued a temporary injunction order on March 2, 2019 and July 15, 2022.

However, N Nethravathi declined to comment on the layout issue stating that she is not aware of any court stay or litigation. "You can contact others," she said.

NOTES FROM THE FIELD

Good omen?

Do VVIPs face issues like commoners? Recently, actress-turned MP Sumalatha visited a temple in Mandya before addressing a press conference. However, she was shocked to see that upon returning her sandals were stolen. This became a buzz and Sumalatha along with her supporters were saying that she didn't mind walking barefoot to the car as she considered the stealing of sandals as a 'good omen'.

Bumpy ride

As the Bengaluru-Mysuru Expressway was inaugurated by PM Modi, there is a credit war between the BJP and Congress as to who was responsible for the execution of this project. However, KPCC president DK Shivakumar expressed a different reaction when journos quizzed him. DKS said, "Before taking credit, let's think of the quality of the service roads. If I want to share my personal experience, I am facing a bumpy ride whenever I am driving on this expressway as my vehicle vibrates a lot while driving on a service road. So, my suggestion is to provide a better service road before taking a call on who is responsible for this expressway."

No to black

A school student who had come to take part in PM Modi's programme at Mandya had to remove his t-shirt as it was black in colour. When quizzed, police told the media that the black colour dress was not being allowed as some people were trying to show black flags which could end up being a breach of protocol. Meanwhile, outside the venue, there was a mad rush among people to get white t-shirts, which were being distributed by saffron party supporters. Meanwhile, when the programme was about to begin, the organisers had a tough time as the front row seats were vacant. As people tried to rush to the front row, police stopped them stating that they could not allow everyone in the front row. However, the BJP leaders didn't want to have empty front rows and hence directed the police to allow them.

Touch me not

Since last week, many are chasing Channagiri MLA Madal Virupakshappa, especially after his son was caught accepting bribes from the Lokayukta. Virupakshappa was incommunicado till he received an interim bail. When the journalists tried to seek his reaction on the whole episode, a visibly upset Virpakshappa said, "Firstly, let me clarify that I am a senior legislator. Secondly, I am a heart patient. So, I want everyone to tell you that before seeking my reaction, no one should come close to me or touch me."

–BMB

Cheaper drone
IIIT-L has built a drone that is said to be equally efficient, but five times cheaper than those in the market

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COIR CARE

Coconuts become tool in shoreline protection

Logs of coconut husk known as coir sit on the bank of the Shark River in Neptune, New Jersey

Coastal communities around the world are adding a tropical twist to shoreline protection, courtesy of the humble coconut.

From the sands of the Jersey Shore to the islands of Indonesia, strands of coconut husk, known as coir, are being incorporated into shoreline protection projects.

Often used in conjunction with other measures, the coconut material is seen as a cost-effective, readily available and sustainable option. This is particularly true in developing countries. But the material is also popular in wealthy nations, where it's seen as an important part of so-called "living shorelines" that use natural elements rather than hard barriers of wood, steel or concrete.

One such project is being installed along a section of eroded river bank in Neptune, New Jersey, about a mile from the ocean on the Shark River. Using a mix of a federal grant and local funds, the American Littoral Society, a coastal conservation group, is carrying out the $1.3 million project that has already added to what was previously a severely eroded shoreline in an area that was pummeled by Superstorm Sandy in 2012.

"We're always trying to reduce wave energy while shielding the shoreline, and whenever we can, we like to employ nature-based solutions," said Tim Dillingham, the group's executive director. "This material is readily available, particularly in developing countries and it's relatively inexpensive compared with harder materials."

Coir is made of the stringy fibers of coconut shells, and spun into mats or logs, often held together with netting. In developing areas, discarded or ripped fishing nets can be incorporated.

Its flexibility allows it to be molded and contoured as needed on uneven areas of shoreline, held in place by wooden stakes.

The coconut-based material biodegrades over time, by design. But before it does, it is sometimes preseeded with shoreline plants and grasses, or those plants are placed in holes that can be punched into the coir logs.

The logs hold the plants in place as they take root and grow, eventually breaking down and leaving the established plants and sediment around them in place to stabilize the shoreline.

Erosion control

Coconut-based materials are being used around the world for erosion control projects.

One of them is in Boston, where Julia Hopkins, an assistant professor at Northeastern University, is using coconut fibers, wood chips and other material to create floating mats to blunt the force of waves, and encourage growth of aquatic vegetation. A pilot project has four such mats in waterways around Boston. Hopkins envisions a network of hundreds or even thousands of mats linked together to protect wider areas.

She's pleased with what she's seen so far. "Coconut fiber is organic material, it's relatively cheap and it's a discard," she said. "It's actually recycling something that was going to be discarded."

Two projects in East Providence, Rhode Island, used coconut logs in 2020, and 2,400 feet (731 meters) of shoreline in New York's Jamaica Bay that were eroded during Superstorm Sandy were stabilized in 2021 by a project that also included coconut coir logs.

Cape Cod, Massachusetts, did a similar project last year, and the Delaware Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control is offering funding to help landowners, homeowner associations and others install living shorelines made of materials that can include coconut fibers.

Coconut fiber is organic material, it's relatively cheap and it's a discard. It's actually recycling something that was going to be discarded

A project in Austin, Texas, stabilized part of the Lake Austin shoreline; monitoring from 2009 to 2014 showed decreased erosion and the healthy growth of native plants at the water's edge.

Husky business

Indonesia is the world's largest coconut producer, with more than 17 million metric tons in 2021. Scientists from the Oceanography Program of Bandung Institute of Technology used coconut husk material to help build a sea wall in the Karangjaladri village of Pangandaran Regency in 2018.

Residents of Diogue Island in Senegal are using wooden structures and coconut fronds and sticks to reclaim eroded sections of beach.

It doesn't always work, however.

In 2016, the Felix Neck Wildlife Refuge in Edgartown, Massachusetts, on Martha's Vineyard installed it at the Sengekontacket Pond, where a salt marsh had eroded by several feet in previous years. While it helped reduce erosion for a bit, the husks did not last due to strong wave action."It got blown out multiple times," said Suzan Bellincampi, the sanctuary's director. "We had it in place for a few years and we decided not to reinstall it.

Similarly, coconut fiber mats and logs were used recently on Chapel Island in Nova Scotia, Canada, but they were damaged by bad weather. Another Canadian site, Lac des Battures, a lake on Montreal's Nuns' Island, uses coconut mats to control the growth of invasive reeds along the shoreline.

At the New Jersey site, a few miles south of the musical hotbed of Asbury Park, trucked-in sand has joined with sediment accruing from the tides to create a beach that is noticeably wider than what used to be there.

"Underneath your feet right now are hibernating fiddler crabs," said Capt. Al Modjeski, a restoration specialist with the Littoral Society. "They'll be excited about this new habitat." **AP**

BITS & BYTES

AFTER A BANK CRASH

Union minister Rajeev Chandrasekhar said he will meet Indian start-ups this week to understand the impact of SVB Financial's collapse on them and how the government can help during the crisis. "The @SVB_Financial closure is certainly disrupting startups across the world. Startups are an important part of NewIndia Economy," Chandrasekhar said in a tweet.

One of the most prominent lenders in the world of technology startups Silicon Valley Bank, struggling under the weight of ill-fated decisions and panicked customers, collapsed on Friday, forcing the US federal government to step in, The New York Times reported. **ANI**

REORDER THAT

Tech giant Google is rolling out a new feature in its Home application for users in the beta programme, which will allow them to reorder devices.

The Google Home team promised in December last year that it was "actively working on the ability to reorder your Favourites look out for that in the first half of next year," reports 9To5Google.

Beta users will now see a "Reorder" button at the bottom of the Favourites tab, while "Add" appears to have been renamed to "Edit." In January this year, it was reported that the tech giant had started to roll out full TV controls on its Google Home application. **IANS**

SAME COSTS

Tech giant Apple's upcoming OLED iPad Pro will cost as much as a MacBook Pro, the media reported.

According to a new supply chain report, the tech giant's new iPad Pro models with OLED screens, which are expected to release next year, will cost up to 80 per cent more than the current releases, reports AppleInsider. It is rumoured that the 11-inch iPad Pro with an OLED display will cost 80% more than the present model and will start around $1,500. On the other hand, the 12.9-inch edition will likely be 60% more costly and will start at $1,800. Also, Apple is discussing the pricing with manufacturers LG Display and Samsung Display, the report said. **IANS**

India reports 524 covid cases, highest in 113 days

#New Delhi

A day after Health Ministry wrote to states and UTs asking them to remain vigilant and to focus on fivefold strategy to curb the infection, India on Sunday reported 524 new Covid cases in last 24 hours, the highest in 113 days.

As per the Health Ministry data, the active caseload has risen to 3,618 which is 0.01 per cent of the total cases. The ministry conducted total 96,170 Covid tests on previous day.

The death toll due to Covid infection in the country stands at 5,30,781, as per the data. While the record rate stands at 98.80 per cent. The total number of people who have recovered from the Covid infection has risen to 4,41,56,093.

Meanwhile, the ministry in a letter to states on Saturday had underlined the gradual rise in Covid-19 test positivity rates in some states and had said it needs to be promptly addressed.

A health worker looks at swab samples at a Delhi hospital

"While the Covid-19 trajectory has decreased substantially in last few months, the gradual rise in Covid-19 test positivity rates in some states is a concerning issue that needs to be promptly addressed.

Despite low number of new cases, equally low number of hospitalisations and significant advances made in terms of Civid-19 vaccination coverage, there is still a need to remain vigilant and focus on fivefold strategy of test-track-treat- vaccination and adherence to Covid appropriate behaviour," Health Secretary Rajesh Bhushan had said in the letter.

Meanwhile, Tamil Nadu recorded its first Covid-19 death after November 2022 in Tiruchi on March 11.

A 27-year-old man, who was admitted to a private hospital, passed away due to Covid-related illness.

– IANS

'Does not conform to Indian ethos'

In SC, Centre opposes pleas to recognise same-sex marriage

#New Delhi

The central government has told the Supreme Court that living together as partners and having sexual relationship by same sex individuals, which is decriminalised now, is not comparable with the Indian family unit -- a husband, a wife, and children born out of the union -- while opposing pleas seeking recognition of same-sex marriage.

It stressed that same-sex marriage is not in conformity with societal morality and Indian ethos.

In an affidavit, the central government said the notion of marriage itself necessarily and inevitably presupposes a union between two persons of the opposite sex. This definition is socially, culturally, and legally ingrained into the very idea and concept of marriage and ought not to be disturbed or diluted by judicial interpretation, it added.

The affidavit said the institution of marriage and the family are important social institutions in India that provide for the security, support and companionship of the members of our society and bear an important role in the rearing of children and their mental and psychological upbringing also.

The Centre stressed that despite the decriminalization of Section 377 of the Indian Penal Code, the petitioners cannot claim a fundamental right for same-sex marriage to be recognised under the laws of the country.

The affidavit said that considerations of societal morality are relevant in considering the validity of the legislature and further, that it is for the legislature to judge and enforce such societal morality and public acceptance based upon Indian ethos.

The Centre said that marriage between a biological man and a biological woman takes place either under the personal laws or codified laws namely, the Hindu Marriage Act, 1955, the Christian Marriage Act, 1872, the Parsi Marriage and Divorce Act, 1936 or the Special Marriage Act, 1954 or the Foreign Marriage Act, 1969.

"It is submitted that the legislative understanding of marriage in the Indian statutory and personal law regime is very specific viz. marriage between a biological man and a biological woman only," it said.

The parties entering into marriage creates an institution having its own public significance as it is a social institution from which several rights and liabilities flow, it added.

"Seeking declaration for solemnisation/registration of marriage has more ramifications than simple legal recognition. Family issues are far beyond mere recognition and registration of marriage between persons belonging to the same gender. Living together as partners and having sexual relationship by same sex individuals (which is decriminalised now) is not comparable with the Indian family unit concept of a husband, a wife and children which necessarily presuppose a biological man as a 'husband', a biological woman as a 'wife' and the children born out of the union between the two -- who are reared by the biological man as father and the biological woman as mother," said the affidavit.

– IANS

A pride parade, held to promote gay, bisexual and transgender rights, in Mumbai (File photo)

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I,SAGAR Jere S/o Shreenivas R/o Mars Classic Apt FF 104 C Block 1st Floor, 8th cross,1st main,Kenchenahalli,Rajarajeshwarinagar, Bengaluru, Karnataka-560098 have changed my name to SAGAR SHREENIVAS JERE for all purposes.

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HEALTH TIP: Consult your doctor to get a proper vaccination schedule for your children as per their age, health, and available vaccines

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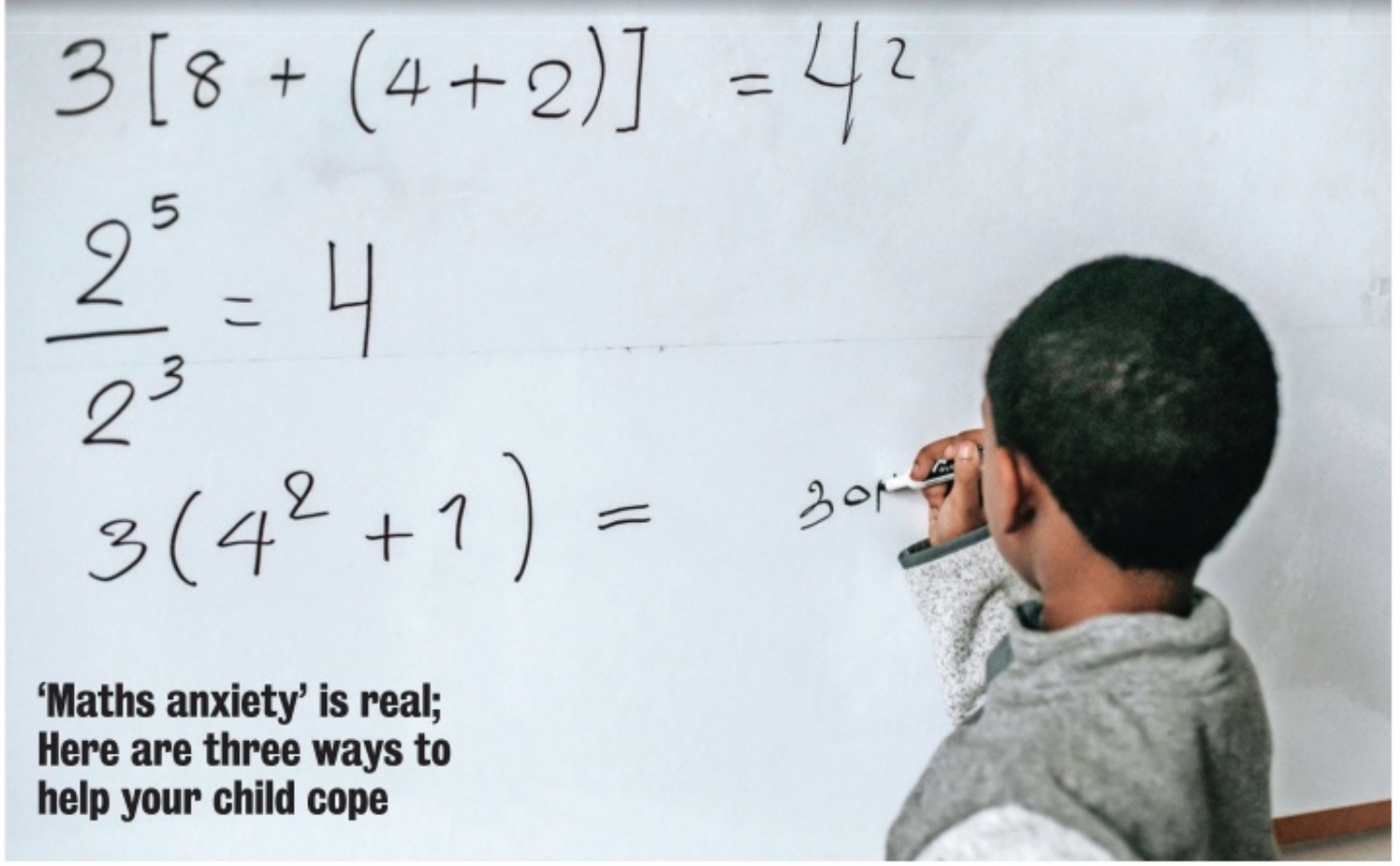
The Algebra in the room



'Maths anxiety' is real; Here are three ways to help your child cope

For many children, the prospect of doing a maths test will be downright terrifying. These students may be suffering from maths anxiety.

We are academics in mathematics education. Here's how to help your child if they are experiencing maths anxiety.

What is maths anxiety?

Maths anxiety is the feeling of tension and worry that interferes with a person's ability to solve mathematical problems. Researchers consider maths anxiety to be distinct from general anxiety, or test anxiety, though there is some crossover.

Maths anxiety usually develops as a result of poor experiences with maths, which leads to negative thought patterns about your maths potential. These thoughts can manifest in an avoidance of maths and feelings of helplessness when confronted with tests.

Maths anxiety is a common issue for many young people and adults and can be seen in children as young as five.

According to Stanford University mathematics education professor Jo Boaler, as of 2012, up to 50 per cent of adults had maths anxiety. The Victorian Department of Education suggests rates are lower, at between six and 17 per cent However, the average rate in academic studies tends to be approximately 20 per cent

That means there are thousands of children who will be dreading an upcoming maths test.

So, what can a parent do to help their anxious child achieve their best in the exam? Here are three practical things you can do right away and into the future:

1. Focus on successes to build confidence

Most children want to be good at maths. If they are younger, they will likely understand this is something their teachers and parents think is important. If they are older, they will know it is important for future jobs and careers.

One of the key sources of maths anxiety is despite wanting to be good at maths, students have received consistently negative feedback about their ability This may just be by comparing themselves to others or more formally through poor results.

To reduce anxiety, it is important to focus on the positive, showing your child times where they have had success in maths. Experiences of success are vital in paving the way to further success in maths.

A practical way to demonstrate success is by getting the child to do an old worksheet, even as far back as two years ago. This shows them how they have progressed.

After completing the sheet, focus on areas of strength – such as "you got all the long divisions correct!" – to help build confidence. This experience of success can be used as a base to then tackle more complicated tasks.

2. Avoid 'overload'

Anxiety about maths assessments can be exacerbated by over-emphasising its importance in the build up. A more constructive approach is to reassure your child there is no judgement in how rm.

Most schools work hard to prepare students for an important test and discussions about it take place regularly. Because of this, it can be easy for children with maths anxiety to get "overload". At home, it is useful to limit your discussion of the upcoming tests to times where the child is doing work to prepare for it.

> **A beneficial approach is for parents to study alongside younger children and show interest in the work older children are completing**

We recommend trying to make the day an exciting one, rather than a terrifying one. For example, you might have a special 'math exam day breakfast'.

3. Work alongside your child

During covid, many families felt the strain of taking a hands-on role with their children's education (who did not take kindly to mum or dad suddenly becoming their "teacher"). So parents may be tempted to leave their children alone to study or do homework. But this won't help relieve maths anxiety.

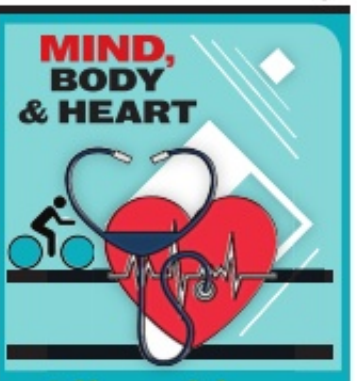
A more beneficial approach is for parents to study alongside younger children and show interest in the work older children are completing. Teenagers may not be open to help when you offer the first time but make it clear that you're there if they need you and you aren't seeking to judge them.

This approach shows the child their parent is engaged with their work and positive about their ability to learn.

It cannot be underestimated how much a parents' approach to learning maths influences their child's approach. Try and have positive conversations with your child about maths and how we use it every day. This can help dispel negative attitudes, such as children thinking, "this is too hard and is just something I need to do at school". You might want to use maths to work through a "best buy" at the supermarket or use length and area to determine how to arrange the furniture in a room.

As the test day nears, families should not have to stress out about it. Preparation focused on celebrating successes and positive experiences can encourage students to simply do their best.

- By Ben Zunica and Bronwyn Reid O'Connor, University of Sydney (The Conversation)



All problems solved

Dear Coleen

On April 13 this year it'll be 10 years since my lovely wife passed away. At the time we'd been married for just over 48 years.
We met when we were 16 and I was in the army. My regiment was stationed far from where my sweetheart lived.
We became pen pals and I still have the photo she sent to me. The day I received it was the day I fell in love with her.
I replied to her letter and photograph, telling her that when I came home we'd meet up and I'd marry her. We did meet in February 1964, but then I only saw her a few times over the next three months as my job took me away.
On my next weekend of leave I did take her out and we went to the jeweller's and I bought her an engagement ring. We married the following year.
Since the day I lost her, the love in my heart has never gone away. A few people have said I should marry again, but they don't understand that the pain of losing her is still with me.
I can't ever be unfaithful to her.

COLEEN SAYS

How lucky your wife was to have been loved so much by you during your long and happy marriage.
You'll never stop loving her but, let me tell you, she loved you too, and would not want you to be unhappy or feel guilty for making room in your life for new and positive things. You are allowed to be happy.
Seeing friends and enjoying yourself doesn't mean you don't love your wife or that you're being disloyal.
It's fine of course if you don't want to marry again or have a romantic relationship, but you can find happiness in other things, as well as companionship with people.

—Coleen Nolan, Daily Mirror

SOLVE IT IN A MINUTE

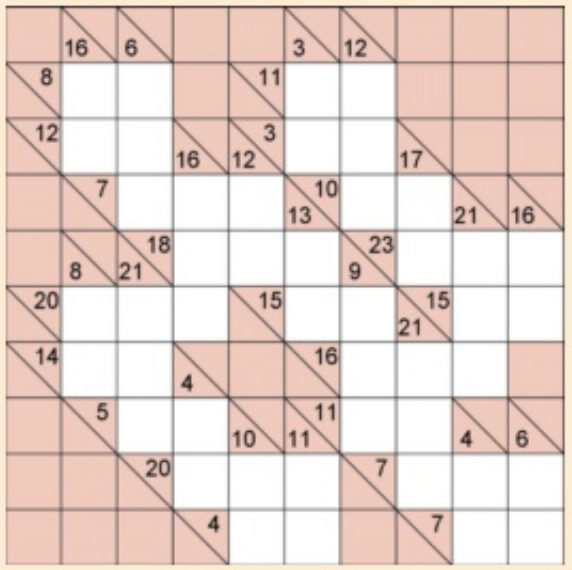
B weighs half of A. C weighs a third of B. D weighs the sum of of A, B, C and D divided by 3. The sum of the weights of A, B, C and D is 645. What are the individual integer weights of A, B, Cand D?

Kakuro

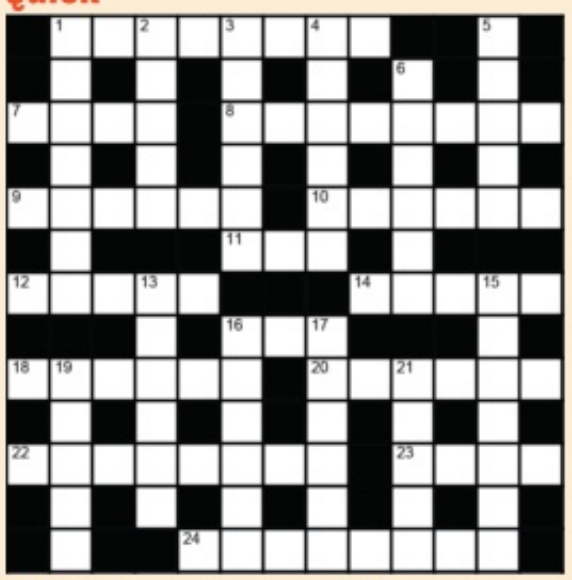
The numbers in the grey squares refer to the sums of the digits that you must fill into the empty spaces directly below or to the right of the grey square containing the number. For instance, in the given example, the 3 boxes horizontally next to 15 must contain 3 digits that add up to 15, whereas

for 9, it is the 2 boxes placed vertically under it that must add up to 9. No zeros are used here, only the digits 1 through 9.

Note: A digit cannot appear more than once in any particular digit combination. For instance, in the example, we cannot have the combination of 4+7+4 for 15.



Quick



ACROSS

1 Delighted in (8)
7 Famous school (4)
8 Prescribes or assigns (8)
9 St. Paul's birth place? (6)
10 Stunt or slow down (6)
11 Previous to (3)
12 Underground rail system (5)
14 Match between local rivals (5)
16 Public vehicle (3)
18 Martial art (4,2)
20 Nabbed (6)
22 British Prime Minister 1874-1880 (8)
23 Pay a visit (4)
24 Sustains, maintains or keeps up (8)

DOWN

1 Ruthless competitive struggle (3-4)
2 Organs of breathing (5)
3 Meagre (6)
4 Large kingdom (6)
5 Elector (5)
6 Goodness (6)
13 Think of or consider (6)
15 Tourist destination home to the Ranganatha Swamy Temple (1,1,5)
16 Government office (6)
17 Scrape and save, be stingy (6)
19 Wholeness (5)
21 Open sore (5)

Quoteuncode

This puzzle is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that Q equals C, it will equal C throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

Today's CLUE: J EQUALS D

ZD O LODS, RZUZT, ZDXST-TZMSDX ODJ EPNOT LPRZSXG, GPK JPD'X HTOES VPPN VS-PVTS IPN HSZDM VPPN.

Linemaro

I like the person I am when I am with you

Mindchow

We can never do everything at once, but we can do something at once

Joke of the day

Lord help me become the person my dog thinks I am

Loop

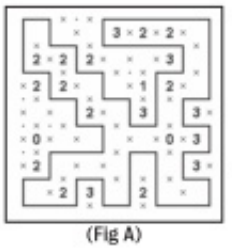
Rules

» Connect adjacent dots with vertical or horizontal lines, creating a single loop (Fig A). » Crossovers or branches are not allowed (As shown by dotted lines in Fig B). » Numbers in the puzzle indicate the number of lines that should surround it, while empty cells may be surrounded by any number of lines. » You can't draw lines around zeros. » Each puzzle has just one unique solution.

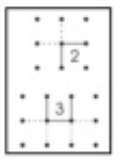
How to begin:

Example (Fig A) – Begin with the zero next to 3. Since no lines can be drawn around zero, mark crosses around it, as shown. Now there is a cross in one space around 3. So we know the three lines of 3 can only be drawn in the remaining three spaces. Next, these lines can only be extended in one direction each. Continue, using the same logic.

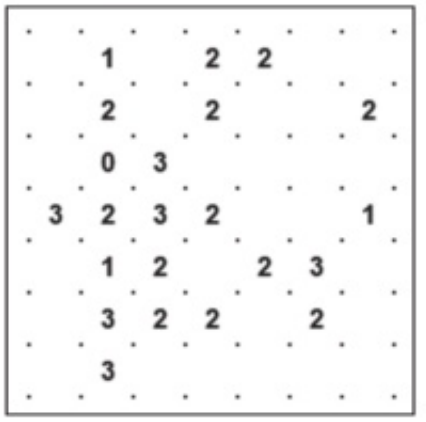
Hints: Keep eliminating possibilities by marking crosses in spaces between dots where a line isn't possible, i.e., if you have already completed required lines or where a line extension may create a branch or cause a dead-end (Fig B)



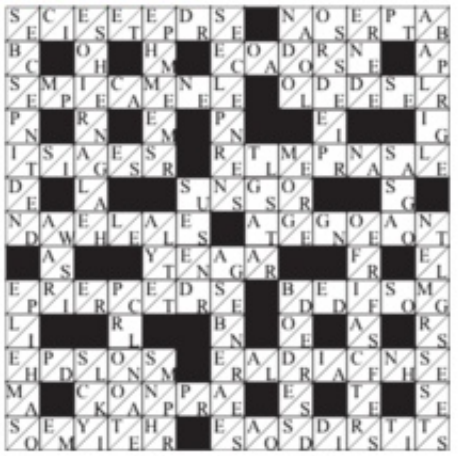
(Fig A)



(Fig B) Not Allowed



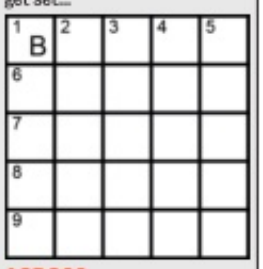
Strikeout



This crossword has no clues and the answer is there waiting for you. All you have to do is find it in each square. You have a choice of two letters, one of which you must strike out. If you choose correctly, you will be left with a grid that contains real words.

Fast five

How long do you think it will take you to unscramble the ten words shown below and fit them correctly into the grid in the order given one letter has already been entered to get you started? on your marks, get set...



ACROSS

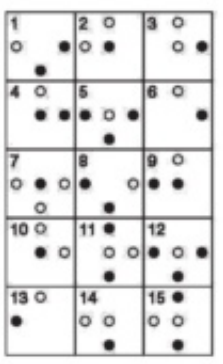
1 R and B; 6 Or rum; 7 Brome; 8 Misto; 9 Thy MS

DOWN

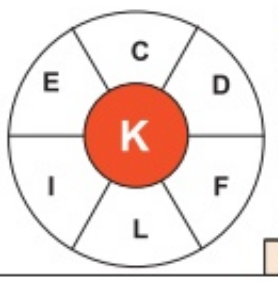
1 Mr Boo; 2 My rum; 3 Bam it; 4 Thorn; 5 S Reds

Mensapuzzle

Which is the odd one out?



Bull's eye



How many words of four or more letters can you make from the letters shown? Every word must contain the central letter. There should be one seven-letter word. British English Dictionary is used as a reference.

07 Average; 08 Good; 10 Outstanding

SudokuChallenge

			9		7			
		8				7		
3	6		4		1		9	2
	1	9				4	6	
	5		1		2		7	
	7	3				9	2	
9	8		2		5		1	7
		1				6		
			7		6			

To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from one to nine must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Gofigure

Place the four numbers in the first, third, fifth, and seventh boxes and whatever operators you care to use in the second, fourth, and sixth boxes in the correct order to get the answer. Use the numbers only once.

Easy = 13
1 2 3 4

Medium = 9
2 2 5 8

Hard = 17
5 7 8 7

Hocusfocus

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

Differences: 1. Window is different. 2. There is more snow on top of fence. 3. Collar is different. 4. Pocket is lower. 5. Scarf is different. 6. Tree is narrower.

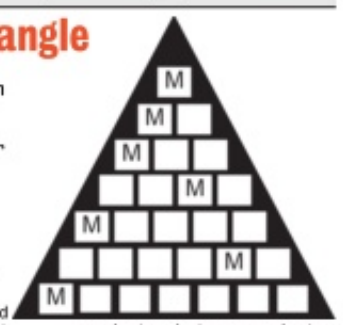
Riddler

Here are two well-known expressions rewritten into "Cliff-ese". For those of you who don't know what that means, he was a very wordy person on the TV show "Cheers" and never used a small word where a larger one would work. Try to figure out the phrases in simpler terms.

1. To place a primitive agricultural conveyance in a position anterior to the animal Equus caballus.
2. It requires a number of people greater than one to perform a terpsichorean series of low dips and twisting steps on the toes.

Alpha triangle

1 Meter, abbr.
2 Personal pronoun
3 Bumped into
4 Big book
5 Water-lily painter
6 Punctually (2,4)
7 Citation



Beginning at the top move towards the bottom seven-letter word by adding a letter at each step and rearranging. A correct and different word must be made at each step answering to the clue given.

DIFFICULT TO SOLVE? FIND THESE SOLUTIONS ON THE NEXT PAGE

COMICS

Redeye by Mel Casson

THERE'S A NICE, PERFECTLY SHAPED TREE TO TAKE BACK TO THE TEPEE, POKEY
AW! IT LOOKS SO HAPPY HERE.
12-24
CAN'T WE PLEASE MOVE OUR TEPEE HERE?

Bizarrotrip

Diamond Lil

Hart of the city

Crankshaft

Mutts

WHAT YOUR STARS SAY TODAY

Aries Mar 21 – Apr 20
Today you may get some business orders which will be profitable in the near future. You may implement some new ideas in your work front. New partnerships may come into the ground. You may be busy with your work. It can make you mentally tired. It affects your domestic life.

Taurus Apr 21 – May 20
Today you will perform well at your job. Your colleagues may cooperate with you. Your performance at work may be good. You may be able to complete postponed projects on time. You may lend money for investment purposes. Job seekers may find a new job. There will be positive news for those affected by old health issues.

Gemini May 21 – Jun 21
Today situations are okay. People around you may now respond to you. You are advised not to take life as a burden. You should try to sustain yourself in unavoidable situations. You may face some difficulties with regard to easy gains. Help from elders may allow you to come out from this situation.

Cancer Jun 22 – July 23
Today tasks remain incomplete. You may be a victim of mood swings. Your patience may be tested many times. Silly mistakes can leave you confused to conclude you work. Lovebirds find themselves to be confused in terms of feelings. More expectations may affect your emotional attachment with your spouse. You are advised to take care of your parents. Students may lose their concentration.

Leo Jul 24 – Aug 23
Today you will be glad. You will be able to maintain a balance between your earnings and expenditure, which will boost your finances. Your network will help you to implement your plans. Your siblings and subordinate staff will be more helpful today. You may plan to visit your elders or a spiritual place.

Virgo Aug 24 – Sep 23
Today your energy levels will be high. It will make you happy and optimistic to fulfil your desires with the help of hard work. You will plan to go for outings with friends and family to share your happiness. Students will hear good news in terms of study.

Libra Sep 24 – Oct 22
Today, until late afternoon, your day may not be good. You may feel unhappy and become nervous, but after noon, you will be happier. Internal vitality will boost your self-confidence. You should avoid carelessness in making decisions in terms of finance, profession, and studies. Lovebirds will plan for short trips.

Scorpio Oct 23 – Nov 22
Today your tendency to overspend will affect your savings. You should be careful while expressing yourself at work and at home. You should avoid lending money. Postpone making important decisions in real estate and asset-related issues. You should try to avoid a tendency of elevation from your responsibilities.

Sagittarius Nov 23 – Dec 22
Today there may be peace in your mind. You may plan to invest some capital in your business, which may increase liquidity. Your earnings may boost your financial health. You may enjoy romantic moments with your spouse, which may enhance harmony in your family life. Singles are likely to find a suitable match. Lovebirds may decide to get married. Students will be blessed by good karma.

Capricorn Dec 23 – Jan 20
Today you may be very happy. Your losses may convert to profits. Your seniors may be happy and will appreciate your work. You are likely to see some changes in your place, position, or responsibilities at work in terms of promotions. Your opponents and hidden enemies may be under control now. Singles and lovebirds may decide to marry.

Aquarius Jan 21 – Feb 19
Today you are blessed by the moon, which can make you happy. Last week's crunch is now over. With the help of blessings, you may get reciprocation for your hard work. With the help of your subordinates, you may be able to re-initiate your postponed works. There are some gains in your business, which may boost your finances.

Pisces Feb 20 – Mar 20
Today you may feel dull. You may have some health issues. You are advised to postpone making investments in business. It is also advised not to start new ventures. You are likely to face losses in your business. Your gains may convert to losses.

KIDZONE

Imdaad Ahmed, Sai Vidya Kendra

Jay A Jain, 6 Years, New Oxford English School

Kidzone, Bangalore Mirror, No.4, KSCCF Compound, Pampa Maha Kavi Road, Chamrajpet, Bengaluru 560 018; Please send hard copies of your artwork in A4 size only.

SOLUTIONS

SOLVE IN 1M
Given: B=A/2; C=B/3
D=(A+B+C+D)/3
A+B+C+D = 645
D=(A+B+C+D)/3
3D=A+B+C+D;
3D=645; D=215
A+B+C+D=645
A+B+C+215=645
A+B+C=430
A+A/2+A/8=430
8A+3A+A=2580
13A=2580
A=258; B=A/2=129;
C=B/3=43; D=215
(A, B, C, D)=(258, 129, 43, 215)

BULL'S EYE
deck, dike, fickle, fleck, flick, FLICKED, flicked, flicker, like, liked

FAST FIVE

M	Y	T	H	S
O	M	I	T	S
O	M	B	R	E
R	U	M	O	R
B	R	A	N	D

STRIKE OUT

S	I	S	T	E	R	S		A	O	R	T	A		
A		R		A		E		E		S				
E	P	S	O	M		E	A	R	A	C	H	E		
		R												
	C	A	U	G	H	T								

QUICK

MENSA PUZZLE
7: all the rest have a mirror-image pairing.

QUOTE UNCODE
In a sane, civil, intelligent and moral society, you don't blame poor people for being poor.

RIDDLER
1. Putting the cart before the horse.
2. It takes two to tango.

SUDOKU

5	4	2	9	6	7	1	3	8
1	9	8	5	2	3	7	4	6
3	6	7	4	8	1	5	9	2
2	1	9	3	7	8	4	6	5
6	5	3	7	1	9	2	8	4
8	7	4	1	9	2	8	5	3
9	8	6	2	4	5	3	1	7
7	2	1	8	3	6	9	7	4
4	3	5	7	1	6	2	8	9

ALPHA TRIANGLE
M, Me, Met, Tome, Monet, On time, Mention.

GO FIGURE
Easy
3 + 4 × 2 − 1 = 13
Medium
8 − 2 − 2 + 5 = 9
Hard
7 + 8 − 5 + 7 = 17

LOOP

KAKURO

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Pre-Oscar party Actor Jacqueline Fernandez, on Sunday, shared some glimpses from her dinner party with the team of her Oscar nominated film 'Tell it like a Woman'.

BangaloreMirror | 12
Monday, March 13, 2023
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Let it be

Some things are sacrosanct: Aditi Rao Hydari on relationship status buzz

Rumours have been rife for a while now that Aditi Rao Hydari and Siddharth are in a relationship. While they've been spotted at several occasions together and shared pictures on social media, the couple has neither denied nor accepted their relationship. In a recent interview, Aditi said that there's nothing there to clear.

The actress who is seen in 'Taj: Divided By Blood' at the moment, said in an interview with Curly Tales that there's nothing to clear because there are certain things which are sacrosanct. Hence, one doesn't want to speak about them so you don't. People will anyway assume what they want to assume to let them!

The rumoured couple recently had shared a video where they were seen dancing together on the viral song 'Tum Tum'. Many celebrities commented on their reel and said that they've clearly won the trend as it is the best video on the internet.

–ETimes

Showstoppers

Rumoured couple Ananya Panday and Aditya Roy Kapur are often spotted together at parties. The duo was first seen together at Kriti Sanon's Diwali party in 2022. Since then, the couple has been hitting headlines. Now, they are set to turn showstoppers for Manish Malhotra at the grand finale of an ongoing fashion show. At the event, Ananya and Aditya are expected to dazzle on the ramp in Manish's latest collection. Recently, Manish took to his Instagram story and confirmed that a rumoured couple will be the face of his new life.

Meanwhile, Ananya and Aditya recently were seen under one roof as they attended Sidharth Malhotra and Kiara Advani's grand reception in Mumbai. Their group picture with the newlyweds had gone viral on the internet.

Ananya Panday will soon be seen in 'Dream Girl 2' with Ayushmann Khurrana. . Aditya Roy Kapur is winning love for his act in 'The Night Manager', he will soon be seen in 'Gumraah' with Mrunal Thakur.

–ETimes

Crush blush

The 'Pushpa' fame actress Rashmika Mandana has been enjoying the title of 'National Crush' for some time now. She was the talk of the town because reports stated cricketer Shubham Gill had a crush on the actress. Though the sportsman later clarified that he never made such a statement, fumes of the reports were enough to ignite a fire. Recently the actress made an appearance at a fashion show, where the paps joked about her being the crush of the cricketers as well now. When the paps said, "you are becoming a crush of cricketers too...", the 'Mission Majnu' actress had the sweetest reaction. She simply looked at the paps, blushed a little, and shook her head.

Meanwhile, on the work front, Rashmika will next be seen in 'Animal' with Ranbir Kapoor and Parineeti Chopra.

–ETimes

'They were inseparable!'

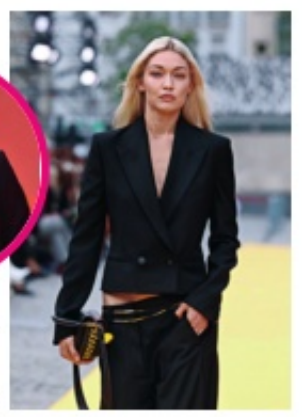
Hollywood star Leonardo DiCaprio was "hanging out all night" with supermodel Gigi Hadid at a recent Hollywood party.

The 48-year-old actor was first linked to model Gigi, 27, towards the end of last year and although the pair were said to have called it quits, a source has claimed that the pair were inseparable at Darren Dzienciol and Richie Akiva's Annual Pre-Oscar Party, which was held over the last couple of days, reports femalefirst.co.uk. A source told UsWeekly: "Leo and Gigi were hanging out together all night. There was no PDA, but they never left each other's side. Tobey hung out with Leo and Leo hung out with Gigi. Leo was only flirting with Gigi and only had eyes for her!"

The Hollywood duo were recently spotted together in Milan, but a source has insisted that the relationship between the 'Titanic' star and Gigi is strictly platonic.

In February, an insider claimed that although the two "get along well", her priorities lie elsewhere. The source said: "Gigi's priority is her daughter and her business."

–IANS



SANDALWOOD SHOTS

Y MAHESWARA REDDY

Sampige effect

Harshika Poonacha is on cloud nine ever since she heard that her latest Kannada movie Kaasina Sara is successfully wooing audiences for the second week. Kaasina Sara will also be screened at single screen theaters in all taluks across the state.

"My mother and relatives watched Kaasina Sara. My mother told me she enjoyed watching the movie from the beginning to end. My mother, who finds mistakes and makes suggestions after watching my movies, appreciated me. It is the first review of my mother with no remarks or suggestions," Harshika said.

At a media conference at SRV Theater on Saturday, she said she plays the character of Sampige in the movie which is completely different from her real life. "Sampige is humble, gregarious and has a lot of affection and love but I am completely different. I get angry and quarrel with friends and family members. Sampige comes to my mind whenever I quarrel with my family. I have decided not to quarrel or argue with my hubby after getting married. I have decided to marry a farmer," she says. She said that she had posted a baby shower scene from the movie on Facebook but many of her fans were disappointed as they mistook it to be real. "I want to appeal to my fans not to get disappointed by my post, which was just for fun," she said.

Ramayana connection!

Director R Chandrakanth is busy with promotional events for his maiden Kannada movie Maariguddada Gaddadharigalu. An event was organised to release a song from the movie in front of Dr Rajkumar's bust at Kurubarahalli. As part of promotional activities, the team engaged a tableaux vehicle to tour 28 districts across the state.

"Releasing one of the songs in front of Dr Rajumar's bust was the dream of Salaga Suri who plays the lead apart from bankrolling the movie. I wrote the script based on an incident from the Ramayana – the scene of kidnapping Sita. Another thing that encouraged me to write the script was a visitor to my office. He has a long beard and kept asking me for an opportunity to act," says Chandrakanath.

He said the vehicle is ready to tour most of the state. "We are planning to take actors along to promote the movie. The plan is to visit two to three districts a day. The van stays at each district headquarters for two to three hours," the director said.

If all goes well, the movie is scheduled for release during the first or second week of next month. "I want to showcase how a villain also can have a kind heart. In this movie, the villain becomes the hero," he said.